IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kenichiro Kawato and Shigeyoshi Nishihara

Serial No.

Filed : herewith

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT - REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is to enhance clarity and conformance with U.S. patent practice. The original claims have been amended to place them in conformance with U.S. patent practice. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, prosecution on the merits hereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 23, 2003

D. Peter Hochberg, Esq. Reg. No. 24,603

DPH/KRV

D. PETER HOCHBERG CO., L.P.A. 1940 East 6th Street - 6th Floor Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2294 (216) 771-3800